(c) The quantum of coal envisaged to be exported will not affect the supply of coal to the Power sector in the country.

Weight shortage in steam coal

1494. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the working group of coal, Coke Consumer Association about financial loss to small scale industry due to weight shortage in steam coal wagons;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to fix the accountability of the guilty for weight shortage; and

(c) whether Government propose to ask the Coal India Limited to determine the actual weight of coal loaded in wagons so that the Railways can be made accountable for shortage on transit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A representation has been submitted by the Working Group of Coal/Coke Consumers' Assoication, a private body, regarding weight shortage in coal carried by Railway wagons. Sale of coal is on F.O.R. Colliery basis. Therefore coal companies are not in a position to check alleged en-route pilferage of coal resulting in lesser coal reaching the consumers. However, they are tightening the arrangements regarding weighment at the time of loading of coal. All out efforts are being made by coal companies to ensure maximum serviceability of weighbridges, and full utilisation/use of the available weighbridges so that as much weighment as possible is done of the rail borne coal. Consumers can also post their representatives to inspect loading and weighment of coal at the loading/weighment points.

Export of produced softwares

1495. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scope for exporting softwares produced indigenously by Techno Engineering designs computers;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to promote and encourage software producers; and

(c) what export performance of software industries has been during the past year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have taken a series of measures to promote software exports:

(i) A policy was announced in December, 1986 for integrated development of software for domestic and export market;

(ii) Government have exempted the earnings from software export from income tax under the section 80 HHE and it is initially valid till financial year 1992-93;

(iii) With liberalisation of industrial policy, the condition of 40 per cent foreign equity for software development in domestic area has been relaxed upto 51 per cent. Now companies having foreign equity upto 51 per cent are being permitted for software development in domestic area;

(iv) To give further boost to software export, the Department of Electronics have launched a scheme called Software Technology